

~~SECRET~~ *Fruit* *Desk File/Casual*

2003 ~~SECRET~~ ONLY

27 May 1954

URGENT

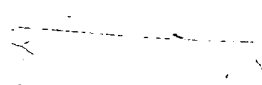
MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. Raymond G. Leddy
Officer in Charge Central American
and Panama Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT: Reported Guatemalan Governmental plot to
involve and discredit United Fruit Company
and the United States.

1. Confirming our conversations of yesterday and this morning I am submitting to you herewith a detailed report of the statements and answers of Perez, the Fruit Company employee who escaped from Guatemala on or about 25 May, bearing with him the story of the above-mentioned arms-burial plot. You are aware of the exploitation of this information which has already been made. We are considering the further exploitation of the more detailed information which we now have and your thoughts and those of Assistant Secretary Holland are urgently requested.

NB.

2. We are also seeking to check up on certain details of the story with a view to authenticating it in so far as is possible. It has occurred to us that if it is possible to provide any substantial amount of authentication, it might be the desire of the Department to make use of this information about this plot as a part of the "case" against Guatemala which is being prepared. It has further occurred to us that if this should be deemed by the Department to be the best use of the material, careful consideration should be given to the desirability of further exploitation of this material for near term or interim propaganda purposes. Please also let us have your views on these two points.

[]
FRANK G. WISNER
Deputy Director (Plans)

cc: Mr. Holland
(without attachment)

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